

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No, sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Loss to Exchequer due to Hawala Transactions.

1418. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any estimate of the annual loss to the Exchequer due to 'Hawala' transactions indulged in by the exporters, importers and smugglers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to check hawala transactions and the results achieved so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) In view of (a) above, does not arise.

(c) The enforcement agencies remain vigilant and taken appropriate action against persons found violating FERA, and other similar laws. In the current year, Indian currency of Rs. 872.36 lakhs and foreign exchange worth Rs. 230.74 lakhs were seized during searches by the Enforcement Directorate. 270 persons were arrested in this connection and 100 persons were ordered to be detained under COFEPOSA.

Enforcement of Section 30 of Advocates Act, 1961

1419. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has

given any direction to the Union Government to take decision about enforcing Section 30 of the Advocates Act, 1961; and

(b) if so, the decision taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government decided to defer the matter.

[Translation]

Loans given by Nationalised Banks in Maharashtra

1420. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNTHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of Nationalised banks in Maharashtra, district-wise and bank-wise;

(b) the amount deposited in various branches of these banks during each of the last two years, district-wise;

(c) the amount of loans given by these branches for various purpose during the above period;

(d) whether the amount of loans sanctioned by these banks commensurate with the targets laid down in this regard; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The number